

What is claimed is:

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1 A method of communications between a first device and a peripheral  
2 device over a network, comprising:  
3 receiving, by a system, a message from the first device to establish a  
4 communications session with the peripheral device, the message being according to a  
5 first protocol defining real-time interactive sessions;  
6 establishing a communications session between the first device and the  
7 system over the network; and  
8 converting, in the system, between data according to the first protocol  
9 and data according to a second protocol that defines a peripheral link from the system  
10 to the peripheral device.

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the message includes  
2 receiving a Session Initiation Protocol message.

1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein establishing the communications  
2 session includes establishing one of a Session Initiation Protocol session and an H.323  
3 session.

1 4. The method of claim 2, wherein converting the data includes  
2 converting between a Session Initiation Protocol format and a Universal Serial Bus  
3 format.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the peripheral link is selected from the  
2 group consisting of a Universal Serial Bus port, a parallel port, a serial port, a Small  
3 Computer Systems Interface port, and a Personal Computer Memory Card  
4 International Association port.

1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein establishing the communications  
2 includes establishing a streaming call session.

1 7. The method of claim 6, wherein establishing the streaming call session  
2 includes establishing a Session Initiation Protocol session.

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1 8. The method of claim 1, further comprising sending one or more  
2 commands to the peripheral device to control operation of the peripheral device.

1 9. The method of claim 1, further comprising sending status information  
2 of the peripheral device to the first device.

1 10. The method of claim 1, further comprising establishing a real-time call  
2 session between the first device and the peripheral device.

1 11. The method of claim 1, wherein establishing the communications  
2 session includes establishing a conferencing session among the first device, the  
3 peripheral device, and another device.

1 12. The method of claim 11, wherein establishing a conferencing session  
2 includes establishing a multicast session.

1 13. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2 receiving another message to establish a second communications  
3 session while the first communication session is active; and  
4 performing one of sending a busy indication and over-riding the first  
5 communications session.

1 14. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2 establishing a communications session between the first device and a  
3 second system; and  
4 converting, in the second system, between data according to the first  
5 protocol and data according to the second protocol.

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1           15.    A system comprising:  
 2                   a first interface capable of communicating with a packet-based  
 3   network according to a first protocol that defines real-time interactive  
 4   communications sessions received over the packet-based network;  
 5                   a second interface capable of communicating with a peripheral device  
 6   according to a second protocol; and  
 7                   a controller to convert a message according to the first protocol to data  
 8   according to the second protocol for communicating to the peripheral device.

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1           16.    The system of claim 15, wherein the peripheral device includes a  
 2   Universal Serial Bus device.

1           17.    The system of claim 16, wherein the first protocol includes one of a  
 2   Session Initiation Protocol and an H.323 Recommendation.

1           18.    The system of claim 15, further comprising a Session Initiation  
 2   Protocol stack to process Session Initiation Protocol messages.

1           19.    The system of claim 15, wherein the second interface includes a  
 2   Universal Serial Bus interface.

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1           20.    The system of claim 19, further comprising a Universal Serial Bus  
 2   client to manage communications with the peripheral device.

1           21.    The system of claim 20, further comprising an interface between the  
 2   controller and the Universal Serial Bus client, the interface including one or more  
 3   application programming interfaces.

1           22.    The system of claim 21, wherein plural application programming  
 2   interfaces are assigned different uniform resource locators.

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31. The method of claim 26, further comprising sending, in response to the received message, one or more commands to the non-telephony device to perform one or more predetermined actions by the non-telephony device.

1 32. An article including one or more machine-readable storage media  
2 containing instructions for controlling a system coupled to a packet-based network  
3 and a peripheral link, the instructions when executed causing the system to:  
4 communicate a message over the packet-based network, the message  
5 defined according to a first protocol for real-time interactive sessions;  
6 convert between the message and data according to a second protocol  
7 defining communications over the peripheral link; and  
8 communicate the data over the peripheral link.

1 33. The article of claim 32, wherein the one or more storage media contain  
2 instructions that when executed cause the system to communicate a command to  
3 control operation of a peripheral device coupled to the peripheral link.

1 34. The article of claim 32, wherein the messages according to the first  
2 protocol and the data according to the second protocol are part of a voice-based call  
3 session.

1 35. The article of claim 32, wherein the one or more storage media contain  
2 instructions that when executed cause the system to receive data from the peripheral  
3 link indicative of a status change of a peripheral device coupled to the peripheral link.

1 36. The article of claim 32, wherein the first protocol includes a Session  
2 Initiation Protocol and the second protocol includes a Universal Serial Bus protocol.

1 37. A data signal embodied in a carrier wave comprising one or more code  
2 segments containing instructions for controlling a system coupled to a packet-based  
3 network and a peripheral link, the instructions when executed causing the system to:  
4 receive a message from the first device to establish a communications  
5 session with the peripheral device, the message being defined by a first protocol  
6 defining real-time interactive sessions;  
7 establish a communications session between the first device and the  
8 system over the network; and

9 convert between data according to the first protocol and data according  
10 to a second protocol defining a peripheral link from the system to the peripheral  
11 device.

1 38. A system comprising:  
2 means for interfacing a packet-based network according to a first  
3 protocol, the first protocol defining real-time interactive communications sessions  
4 over the packet-based network;  
5 means for interfacing a peripheral device according to a second  
6 protocol; and  
7 means for translating between data according to the first protocol and  
8 data according to the second protocol.

1 39. A system comprising:  
2 one or more interfaces capable of communicating with peripheral  
3 devices; and  
4 a controller adapted to set up communications between the peripheral  
5 devices using messaging according to a real-time interactive communications  
6 protocol.

1 40. The system of claim 39, wherein the messaging is according to a  
2 Session Initiation Protocol.

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